

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

INTRODUCED BY T. FUREY

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THAT AN APPROPRIATE INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY THE STATE'S SYSTEM OF REGULATING AND PROMOTING FOOD PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING AND THE WAYS IN WHICH THE STATE'S SYSTEM OF REGULATION INTERACTS AND INTEGRATES WITH FEDERAL LAW AND COUNTY REGULATION.

WHEREAS, the Department of Livestock, Department of Public Health and Human Services, and Department of Agriculture have roles in regulating and promoting food production and food processing; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has passed sweeping laws regulating food production and processing with which the state's system of regulation interacts and with which the state's system must be integrated to work effectively and efficiently; and

WHEREAS, county health departments play a vital role in the enforcement of the various state and federal regulations, in addition to enforcing county and city ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the current system of food regulation is complicated and is difficult for food businesses, growers, and consumers to understand and comply with; and

WHEREAS, creating a system that is easier to understand benefits all food producers, food processors, and the consumers of Montana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, to study the state food regulation system and the ways in which the system interacts and integrates with federal law and county regulation and enforcement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study:

- (1) examine the laws under which and the procedures by which the Department of Livestock, Department of Public Health and Human Services, Department of Agriculture, federal authorities, and county health departments regulate food production and food processing;



